

Montana Immunization Program Newsletter

Issue Date: December 5, 2016



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National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW), December 4- 10, is the perfect time to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination through December and into the new year.

During the week of NIVW, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services will post a message on our [Facebook page](#). We hope you will "like" or "share" this post to help spread the message across the state that it's not too late to get a flu vaccine. Currently, there are sporadic flu cases in Montana. The flu season here typically peaks in February and lasts through May.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure all Montanans are protected against the flu each year! For more information about NIVW, click [HERE](#). For more information about the 2016-2017 flu season, click [HERE](#).

Vaccines In Practice

Influenza Vaccines and Resources

We frequently get questions regarding the expiration date for multi-dose vials of influenza vaccine. Here are the CDC guidelines regarding the use of multi-dose vaccine vials:

Most vaccines in multi-dose vials can be used through the expiration date on the vial unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer in the prescribing information. For some vaccines, the manufacturer specifies a “Beyond Use date” or BUD. The BUD is the timeframe in which the product must be used after the vial is initially entered (i.e., stopper is punctured). Any opened vaccine not used within its BUD should be discarded.

Always check the prescribing information for multi-dose vials to see if they are good through the expiration date on the vial or are governed by a BUD. Package inserts for vaccines can be found at <http://www.immunize.org/fda/>.

Don't Forget Specialty Vaccines for Next Flu Season

Although the ACIP makes no preferential recommendation of one influenza vaccine product over another, some influenza vaccines are designed for special populations. For instance, some are formulated to better stimulate the immune systems of older adults. Others are manufactured using processes that reduce or eliminate egg proteins.

When planning your vaccine purchases for next season, be sure to understand all the options and select the products best suited to your clientele. Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of influenza vaccine products available for the 2016-2017 influenza season.

2016-2017 Influenza Vaccination Recommendations

Click [HERE](#) for the 2016-2017 influenza recommendations. Details regarding the different vaccine types can be found in the *Influenza Vaccine Composition and Available Products* section of the general recommendations.

Visit our [webpage](#) for more influenza resources such as screening questionnaires, algorithm for number of doses for ages 8 years and younger, egg allergy recommendations, and links to additional resources.

Questions? Contact Susan Reeser, Nurse Consultant, sreeser@mt.gov or (406) 444-5580.



VFC Corner

Monthly VFC Hot Topics Webinars

When: Every other month, last Tuesday and Thursday of the month.

[Updated Hot Topics Schedule](#)

[Archived Presentations](#)

| Month | Topic |
|----------|--|
| December | Annual Re-enrollment Instructions and Vaccine Shipping Schedule for the Holidays |

| | |
|---|--|
| Tuesday December 13th 7:00 a.m. | Meeting Password: montana https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=mbc4a017c03a1b0aec831f5f37396674 Audio Access Code: 804 336 704 |
| Thursday December 15th 8:00 a.m. | Meeting Password: montana https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=mb00832f8e143fe7b14225b3c49bf279f Access Code: 807 286 964 |

VFC Reminders

VFC Influenza Vaccine Order Update

We have received all VFC influenza vaccine! We have shipped all orders at this time. If you need additional doses of .5 influenza, please e-mail kgrady@mt.gov and I will ship you additional doses. If you need more .25 influenza, please let us know also and we will find another VFC provider that can transfer doses that they are not going to use.

VFC Reminders

VFC Annual Re-enrollment

Annual VFC re-enrollment happens at the turn of the calendar year. Here are a few reminders to prepare:

- Provider Population Numbers are required when you submit your new VFC Site Contract. "Provider Population Numbers" are an estimate for the coming year of your total pediatric immunization patients by age and VFC eligibility category, including privately insured patients. This information must be obtained from actual immunization data from the current year. Don't be caught unprepared! Plan ahead to have this information handy when you re-enroll.
- Before approving your VFC Site Contract for the coming year, we will confirm that:
 - The vaccine manager and alternate at your facility have completed the following mandatory training webinars and submitted the associated quizzes:
 - [Borrowing Boot Camp](#) (applicable only to facilities managing public and

- private stock)
 - [Annual Provider Education](#)
 - We have received approval data from your newly recalibrated data loggers, submitted through our online [Vaccine Incident Report](#)
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Clinic Spotlight

Beartooth Billings Clinic started a reminder/recall immunization box to assist patients in knowing when to return for immunizations. Below are the steps this clinic takes to ensure the immunization box works:

- After every well-child visit and before the patient leaves, staff members take a blank card from the back of the Immunization Call Back Box and fill it out with the child's name, date of birth, date when the next shots are due, and what shots are needed.
- The card is filed in the box under the month before the patient is due to come back.
- Each month, all the cards filed under that month are pulled and a letter outlining the immunizations the patient is due for and when they should come in is sent.
- The date the letter was sent is written on the card and refiled in the box under the next month (when shots are due).
- When the child comes in for their immunizations the card is removed from the box. Another card is created, if additional shots are due.
- If the child does not return, additional follow-up letters are sent.
- Since implementation about 90% are returning for their immunizations.





imMTrax Announcements

Remaining imMTrax Updates of 2016

There are only about four weeks left in 2016 and imMTrax users should expect several more updates to be implemented before the New Year, particularly in the first few weeks of December.

- Improvements to existing modules, including Reminder and Recall, Immunization Coverage Report, Inventory Transaction options and display
- Availability of the 2017 VFC Site Contract
- Forecaster updates and corrections

As updates are made, we will issue notices by posting to the imMTrax Announcements, accessible upon logging into imMTrax. imMTrax Announcements display for all 2000+ imMTrax users, making it one of our most efficient means of communication.

For more information contact Michelle Funchess, mfunchess@mt.gov or (406) 444-2969.



2016 Immunization Provider Education Series

The following webinar sessions are available to view one year from the date of the original presentation. The sessions are available on the MMA website at no cost. Nursing staff can receive 1.25 nursing contact hours for each session.

1. *Immunizations: Building Trust During the Time of Twitter* presented by Dr. Swanson from Seattle Children's Hospital- **Available until 06/10/2017**
2. *Prevention of Influenza in High-Risk Groups: What Are the Vaccine Options and Strategies?* presented by Dr. Poland from Mayo Clinic- **Available until 09/23/2017**
3. *HPV Immunization: Separating the Myths from Reality* presented by Dr. Erin Stevens from Billings Clinic- **Available until 11/21/2017**

Questions? Contact the Immunization Program at (406) 444-5580 or hsiz@mt.gov.

2017 Immunization Provider Education Series

Mark your calendars for the 2017 webinar sessions!

Applying Principles of Vaccination to Vaccine Administration Best Practices

Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 12:00pm

Presented by Donna Weaver, RN, MN Nurse Educator from CDC

Strategies to Communicate with Vaccine Hesitant Parents

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 12:00pm

Presented by JoEllen Wolicki, BSN, RN Nurse Educator from CDC

Adolescent Immunizations

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 12:00pm

Presented by Amy Middleman, MD, MPH, MEd Adolescent Medicine Clinic Specialist at Oklahoma University Medical Center

Click [HERE](#) for webinar login information and additional details about the webinar series.

Monthly Vaccine-Preventable Disease Report

Table 1. Select Vaccine-Preventable Disease Counts by Jurisdiction of Residence- November 2016 and 2016 Year to Date.

| Select Vaccine Preventable Disease Case Counts by Jurisdiction of Residence, 2016 | Haemophilus Influenzae, invasive | Neisseria meningitidis, invasive (Mening. disease) | Mumps | Pertussis | Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive | Varicella (Chickenpox) |
|---|----------------------------------|--|-------|-----------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jurisdiction | | | | | | |
| CASCADE | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| FLATHEAD | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| GALLATIN | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| LAKE | - | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| MISSOULA | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| YELLOWSTONE | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| November 2016 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 2016 year to date | 13 | 2 | 27 | 17 | 79 | 59 |

November 2016

The Missoula City-County Health Department reported a case of *Neisseria meningitidis* in a young child. Local public health conducted a contact investigation and determined that family members were the only close contacts in need of post-exposure prophylaxis. Additionally, a few cases of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, and Pertussis were reported from across the state.

Table 2. Influenza Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths

| | Cases | Hospitalizations | Deaths |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|--------|
| 2016-2017 Season* | 61 | 12 | 0 |

*October 2, 2016- October 25, 2017

2016-2017 Influenza Season Update

The 2016-2017 Influenza Season officially started on October 2, 2016. Thus far, flu activity has been sporadic with 61 laboratory confirmed cases and 12 hospitalizations reported as of November 28, 2016.

Data retrieved from DPHHS.

Questions? Contact CDEpi at (406) 444-0273.